



Dear Neighbor,

Over the past few months, I have received a tremendous amount of input from my constituents throughout the district regarding a variety of topics. The two most common comments were property taxes and illegal immigration. Please know that your remarks were valuable to me as my colleagues and I worked on issues this year.

Property tax reform was my major goal this year. It was clear that a massive overhaul of our tax system was needed and that is what Hoosiers received. This session brought homeowners property tax relief and significant reform to the state's outdated property tax system.

House Enrolled Act 1001 was signed by Governor Daniels on March 19, creating the largest property tax cut in state history. Homeowners across the state will see an immediate average homestead property tax reduction of more than 25 percent. Property taxpayers will have the burdens of the remaining school operating fund levy and the child welfare levy removed from property tax and have greater control over local spending through referenda. In addition, all classes of taxpayers now have circuit-breaker protection to limit the amount of their bills.

All of these measures were passed in order to bring your tax burden under control and to limit spending so that government does not grow faster than your ability to afford it. It is a tremendous step in the right direction. Yet, there remains more to be accomplished. As your representative, I look forward to continuing to reform our tax system and beginning to change the structure of government to bring more efficiency and accountability to the taxpayers.

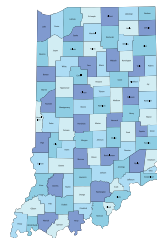
One issue that was discussed at length, but did not pass, was halting illegal immigration. The bill that I authored to fight illegal immigration did not receive a hearing. Other immigration legislation failed to reach the House floor for a vote. But I pledge to continue the fight. Illegal immigration is costing the state millions of dollars and must be addressed and brought under control.

This newsletter includes details of the property tax plan that gives us immediate property tax relief and permanent reform. It also updates you on the fight against illegal immigration.

Again, I greatly appreciate your participation in the process. I hope you continue to share your thoughts and concerns with me and help shape my actions for the upcoming session.

Sincerely,

Sean Eberhart
Sean R. Eberhart



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
Sean Eberhart
HOUSE DISTRICT 57
200 W. Washington St • Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

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HOOSIERS *demand* *property tax* REFORM.

State Rep.
SEAN EBERHART
delivered.





Immediate Relief. PERMANENT Reform.

The General Assembly's property tax plan created the largest property tax cut in state history. The plan offers Hoosier taxpayers relief on 2008 bills and the promise of permanent reform.

Help for Hoosier homeowners.

- Homeowners will see \$620 million in immediate relief for 2008.
- \$1 billion has been removed from property tax levies.
- Referenda empower voters to control or allow spending.
- \$140 million of relief is planned for 2009, and \$80 million of relief in 2010.

Help for all Hoosier property-tax payers.

- The plan cuts now and forwards the process to cap property taxes forever through a constitutional guarantee.
- The plan closes loopholes that allowed more government spending.
- Senate Joint Resolution 1, which would become part of the Indiana Constitution, begins the process of permanent caps of 1 percent of assessed value for homesteads, 2 percent for rental and agricultural properties and 3 percent for all others.

Help for local governments.

- At the county level, the costs of four child-welfare levies, juvenile incarceration and health care for the indigent are removed from property taxes. The state picks up these costs.
- At the municipal level, it removes from property taxes the remaining pre-1977 police and fire pensions, and it includes support for police and fire services. These costs are covered by the state.

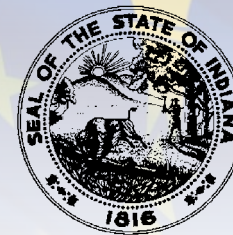
Help for Hoosier schools.

- The plan removes school operations and special education preschool costs from property taxes. The state will pick up these costs.
- It also includes \$120 million in circuit-breaker relief and increases tuition reserve fund money to \$400 million.

Help for low-income Hoosiers.

- The plan includes an overall decrease in taxes for many low-income taxpayers through renters' deductions, caps for low-income senior-citizen homeowners and earned income credits.

Well before the session began ...we wanted the best results for Hoosier taxpayers, not Hoosier tax-spenders.



State Representative
Sean Eberhart

I have always valued your input, thoughts, concerns and ideas. Here is some important contact information to reach me directly, as well as other important contact information you may find helpful:

Contact Representative Eberhart

Statehouse Office:	800-382-9841
E-mail Address:	h57@iga.IN.gov
Web site:	www.in.gov/h57
Mailing Address:	200 W. Washington St. Room 401-4 Indianapolis, IN 46204

Important Numbers

State Information Center	800-457-8283
Federal Information Center	800-688-9889
Indiana House	800-382-9841
Indiana Senate	800-382-9467
Gov. Mitch Daniels	317-232-4567
Sec. of State Todd Rokita	317-232-6531

The Fight Against ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION

Unfortunately, the General Assembly failed to address the problem of illegal immigration.

Senate Bill 335, which was authored by Senator Mike Delph, passed the Senate but failed to pass out of committee in the House. The language from the bill was amended into Senate Bill 345 and passed the House by a vote of 66 to 33. However, the bill failed to pass out of conference committee. In addition, the illegal immigration legislation that I introduced failed to receive a hearing in the House.

My legislation addressed illegal immigration along three fronts. First, the bill required employers to verify new employees as being legal residents and provided penalties for violations. Second, the bill prevented illegal immigrants from receiving any state benefits, including driver's licenses. Finally, the bill granted broader policing authority to both the state police and our local law enforcement officers.

Constitutionally, immigration is one of the few issues the federal government has a responsibility to address. Due to the inaction of our federal government, it is up to the individual states to address this serious issue. States have the inherent authority to enforce federal law, but our citizens have a constitutional right to expect our laws to be enforced.

Similar legislation was passed into law in Arizona last year. Implementation of the law is proceeding well and proving to be an effective deterrent to illegal immigration. Indiana must follow the lead of Arizona.

Now is the time to quit rewarding illegal immigrants whose first act in our state is to break the law. I pledge to continue the fight and reintroduce my bill next year.